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PP RUEHROV
DE RUEHDM #0104 0321318
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 011318Z FEB 07
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2899
INFO RUEHXK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 000104

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

IO/PSC FOR MARTIN GURCH, NEA/ELA FOR SONTY

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>KPKO</u> <u>KWMN</u> <u>PREL</u>

SUBJECT: SYRIA: EFFORTS TO COMBAT SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND

ABUSE IN UN MISSIONS

REF: A. SECSTATE 112531

¶B. 06 DAMASCUS 03927

(SBU) In response to reftel A, Post is providing an update to reftel B from August 2006 that reported a complete absence of public or private reports about trafficking in persons (TIP) or sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) involving UN peacekeeping personnel based in Syria. From that time to now, there have been no reports of UNDOF peacekeepers involved in SEA or TIP incidents, according to the Chief Civilian Personnel & Travel Officer at UNDOF headquarters in Syria. Poloff additionally raised the topic with officials from the Syrian Counter-Trafficking Commission and the International Office for Migration in Syria during a counter-trafficking conference; none had heard of reported abuse by any UN peacekeepers here.